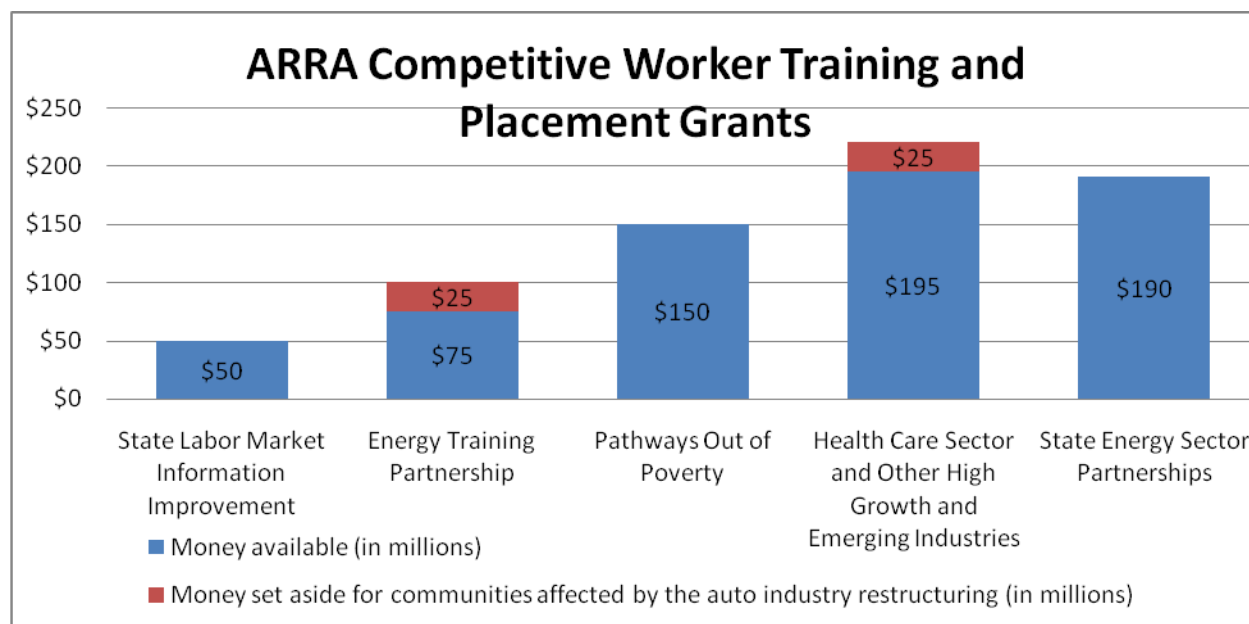


## Workforce Investment Competitive Grant Deadlines Rapidly Approaching

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act includes \$750 million in competitive grants for worker training and placement in high growth and emerging industries; \$500 million is split between multiple grant programs focused on green jobs, and \$250 million is focused on the health care sector and other high growth and emerging industries. Application deadlines are coming quickly. The grant programs are administered by the Department of Labor (DOL) Employment and Training Administration (ETA); [click here for all full announcements](#). See below for a brief description of the purpose, eligible applicants, information on the deadlines, and links to the application webpage. In addition, these competitive grant opportunities emphasize collaboration and strategic partnerships with a wide range of agencies as well as other ARRA-funded programs. DOL is partnering with other Federal agencies to support the goals of the Recovery Act and encourages applicants to form similar partnerships locally, connecting workforce development strategies to other ARRA-funded projects and initiatives. Additional details on this important emphasis are also described below for each program.



### State Labor Market Information Improvement Grants (\$50 million)

- **Purpose:** To collect, analyze, and disseminate labor market information, and to enhance the labor exchange infrastructure for careers within the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries.
- **Eligible applicants:** [State workforce agencies](#) or a consortium of such agencies.
- **Emphasis on coordination and collaboration:** Applicants must demonstrate strategic partnerships will be used to implement the proposed project. Partners should include:

State labor market information and research entities, State Workforce Investment Board, and other additional partners such as employers, industry-related organizations, colleges and universities, research labs and centers, among others.

- **Deadline:** August 14, 2009. [See the full federal announcement](#) for more information.

#### **Energy Training Partnership Grants (\$100 million)**

- **Purpose:** To provide training and placement services in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries for workers impacted by national energy and environmental policy, individuals in need of updated training related to the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries, and unemployed workers. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) intends to fund 20 – 30 projects for approximately \$2 – \$5 million. Approximately \$25 million will be set aside for communities affected by auto industry restructuring; Cook County is eligible for this set-aside.
- **Eligible applicants:** National labor-management organizations with local networks or private nonprofit organizations with statewide or local nonprofit partnerships.
- **Emphasis on coordination and collaboration:** Applicants' applications must propose partnerships that include labor organizations; local Workforce Investment Boards and One Stop Career Centers; employers or industry organizations.
- **Deadline:** September 4, 2009. [See the full federal announcement](#) for more information.

#### **Pathways out of Poverty grants (\$150 million)**

- **Purpose:** To provide training and placement services to create and implement pathways out of poverty and to into employment within the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries. ETA intends to fund grants ranging from approximately \$3 – \$8 million for national grantees and grants ranging from approximately \$2 – \$4 million for local grantees. ETA does not expect to fund any project under \$2 million.
- **Eligible applicants:** National, private nonprofit organizations with local affiliates or local entities.
- **Emphasis on coordination and collaboration:** All applicants must demonstrate strategic partnerships that include at a minimum: non-profit organizations, public workforce system agencies, the education and training community, labor organizations, and employer and industry-related organizations.
- **Deadline:** September 29, 2009. [See the full federal announcement](#) for more information.

#### **Health Care Sector and Other High Growth and Emerging Industries Grant, \$220 million**

- **Purpose:** To teach workers the necessary skills for, and help them pursue careers in, health care and other high growth and emerging industry sectors. Approximately \$25 million will be set aside for communities affected by auto industry restructuring. Cook County is eligible for this set-aside.
- **Eligible applicants:** Public entities and private nonprofit organizations. National and local entities may apply.
- ETA intends to fund grants ranging from approximately \$2 – \$5 million in 45 – 65 grants.

- **Emphasis on coordination and collaboration:** Applicants are required to form a strategic partnership with at least one of the following: non-profit organizations, public workforce system service providers, education and training community, public and private employers and industry-related organizations, or labor organizations. In addition, applicants are strongly encouraged to partner with public housing agencies, community action agencies, foundations, social service agencies, and other organizations implementing Recovery Act funded programs.
- **Deadline:** October 5, 2009. [See the full federal announcement](#) for more information.

#### **State Energy Sector Partnerships (SESP) (\$190 million)**

- **Purpose:** To invest in workforce sector strategies that target energy efficiency and renewable energy industries. By encouraging strategic planning to align the Governor's overall workforce vision, State energy policies, and local and regional training activities, the federal government hopes to encourage development of a statewide energy sector strategy through a comprehensive partnership and development of a Sector Plan. ETA intends to fund grants ranging from approximately \$2 – \$6 million for SESP.
- **Eligible applicants:** State Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) in partnerships with their State Workforce Agency, local WIBs or regional consortia of Boards, and One Stop Career Center delivery systems. Only one application may be submitted per state.
- **Emphasis on coordination and collaboration:** ETA encourages applicants to link to other Recovery Act funded projects, particularly those funded by the Department of Energy, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Education.
- **Deadline:** October 20, 2009. [See the full federal announcement](#) for more information.

In addition to these five competitive grant opportunities, 10 percent of federal WIA dollars authorized by ARRA to be allocated by formula to the states are retained by the each state for discretionary purposes. Details on these funds are also forthcoming.

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